

HEROINES OF THE SURF.

What Women Have Done in the Work of Saving Lives.

Washington, July 21.—Women will be represented at the coming Congress of Life Savers, which is to be held at Nantes, France, in the latter part of this month. The life saving work of American women particularly will receive attention, inasmuch as they contribute not a little to the efficiency of the life saving service of the United States. Not only does an association of women, known as the Blue Anchor Society, supply all the life saving stations with clothing for "shipwrecked" people, but the wives and daughters of the station keepers frequently heroic work in the rescue of drowning persons.

The annals of American heroines of the surf have yet to be properly written, but when a capable pen takes the task they will compose a fascinating volume. In a number of instances women have received medals of gold and silver from the Government in recognition of their services, and in more than one case Uncle Sam has bestowed such decorations upon little girls.

The famous Ida Lewis was only a little girl when she made her first rescue. She was 12 years of age at the time and her mother was the keeper of the Lime Rock light house in Newport harbor, her father being a helpless cripple. One day she saw a sail at upset in the harbor and promptly rowed out to it in a little skiff, reaching it in time to save four young men who were struggling in the water for life.

Later on, under similar circumstances, she saved a soldier from the Fort Adams garrison and the man was stored to life at the lighthouse. On another occasion three men were trapped in a boat near Lime Rock while trying to pick up a valuable sheep which had fallen off a wharf. She rescued them and the sheep also. On afterwards she saw a man cling to the spindle which marked a light near the light house and, rowing out, she brought him in. In a gale another day she saved two soldiers on a swamped boat, and again she pulled out two members of the Fort Adams garrison band, who had broken through the ice between the light house and the Fort. In all she rescued thirteen persons from drowning and earned for herself the title of the "ace" of America. She is now 60 years of age and still keeps the lime rock light.

The gold life saving medals, worth \$10 each intrinsically, are granted on cases where the recipient has risked his or her life. In one case a medal was refused by the person to whom it was offered—Edith Morgan, Hamlin, Mich. There had been a fearful storm on the lake, in the winter of 1878, and the steamer City of Toledo was driven ashore. It was blowing hard and the ship was soon transformed into an iceberg by waves breaking over it. Communication with the shore was established by a rope and the girl, assisted by a number of men, succeeded in rescuing a few of the eighteen men. The medal was refused to her because she had not actually risked her life; but she declined to accept it, saying that her performance did not merit a gold medal and she did not want it.

One little girl who received a medal was Marie D. Parsons. She was only years old and lived on the shore of Long Island, at a place called Village. She was watching a boat hoist a sail on board of a boat some distance from shore when suddenly the boom flew over and knocked aboard a small child of 7. The child jumped in after the child and the boat, drifting away, left them struggling in the water. Marie, seeing that no time was to be lost, got into a boat and, by rowing 300 yards with all might, got there quickly enough to save both.

A gold medal was bestowed upon a girl named Maud King for a deed daring done in 1889, in the harbor of Charleston, S. C. She, her mother and her aunt, Mary Whitely, were the only persons at home in the light house supply station at Castle Pinckney when a yawl was capsized about a quarter of a mile from the wharf. Three men and a boy were on board of the yawl. The boy was ashore; one man was on the boat and the two others were hanging on for dear life, the sea was running making their position one of great danger.

Maud, who was the granddaughter of the captain of the light house tug "Wistaria," ran to the wharf and secured a boat, the task being one of little difficulty owing to the rough water. Into it she got, accompanied by her aunt, and the two, each taking oar, rowed to the men, finally rescuing all three of them.

In August, 1874, the Catherine, a

Norwegian vessel, ran ashore not far from Pensacola, Fla. At that season the crews of the life saving stations are off duty, so few wrecks occurring, and thus it happened that there were only two men in the nearby station on Santa Rosa Island—the captain, whose name was Broadbent, and one assistant. Fortunately, however, the captain had three daughters, who promptly volunteered, helped to haul the life saving apparatus a distance of two miles, fired the life line from the shore over the stranded ship, rigged the breeches buoy and rescued all of the crew.

Seven years ago three young women happened to be staying for the summer at Point Lookout, on Long Island Sound. They were the guests of the wife of the keeper of the life saving station at that place, and their names were Jennie Rhodes, Mrs. Celia Raynor and Mrs. Rene Southerland. A gale sprang up and a vessel came ashore about a mile west of the station. As subsequently ascertained she was the Martha P. Tucker, bound from Port Tampa to Carteret, N. J., with a cargo of phosphate rock. Owing to the season the station was short-handed and the twelve men on board would have all been drowned inevitably but for the efforts of the young women, who helped in transporting and operating the apparatus, thus saving eleven of the crew. The twelfth was swept overboard and drowned.

In January, 1892, a vessel was blown ashore at night on the coast of Washington State, in a lonely region where there were no life saving stations. It was a terrible storm and all night long Mrs. Martha White, the wife of a local settler, patrolled the beach with a lantern. She thought she heard guns at intervals and when day broke she saw the wreck. Taking off her petticoat she waved it as a signal, but the situation of the vessel was evidently hopeless. Nearly all of those on board were lost, but three men she succeeded, though herself a very little woman, in pulling out of the surf, afterwards restoring them to life. For this service she received a gold medal.

Only three years ago, in April, 1899, the steamer Chilkat, laden with lumber, went to pieces on the bar in trying to enter Humboldt Bay, Cal. A life boat was sent to her assistance from the life saving station a couple of miles away, but it was too late, the ship having capsized. There were twenty people on board, including half a dozen passengers, and most of them were lost; but three were saved with the utmost difficulty, and under circumstances of the greatest danger, by women from the station. Mrs. Hennig, the keeper's wife; a girl named Shumway, and Mrs. McLean, who was the wife of a surfman. The women dashed into the surf and dragged the unfortunate ashore, all three of them being afterwards resuscitated.

Shipwrecked persons are apt to come ashore almost if not entirely naked, owing to the fury of the elements, and hence the necessity of having on hand plentiful supplies of clothing for them. No sooner are they fetched to the life saving stations than they are put to bed and furnished with every possible comfort by the women, who in this way contribute very importantly to the beautiful work. If they did nothing else their services would deserve to be considered most beautiful, but, as already explained, they often take an active part in the actual business of saving lives. It is a fact worth mentioning incidentally that the first life boat service on the Atlantic coast of North America was established by a woman, Dorothea Dix, who built and equipped a station on Sable Island, off the shores of Nova Scotia.—Rene Bache, in News and Courier.

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If you have offensive pimples or eruptions, ulcers on any part of the body, aching bones or joints, falling hair, mucous patches, swollen glands, skin itches and burns, sore lips or gums, eating, festive sores, sharp, gnawing pains, then you suffer from serious blood poison or the beginnings of deadly cancer. You may be permanently cured by taking Botanic Blood Balm (B. B. B.) made especially to cure the worst blood and skin diseases. It kills the poison in the blood thereby giving a healthy blood supply to the affected parts, heals every sore or ulcer, even deadly cancer, stops all aches and pains and reduces all swellings. Botanic Blood Balm cures all malignant blood troubles, such as ulcers, eczema, scrofula, Blood Poison, cancer, eating sores, itching skin, pimples, boils, bone pains, swellings, rheumatism, etc. Especially advised for all obstinate cases that have reached the second or third stage. Costs \$1 per large bottle at drug stores. To prove it cures, sample of Blood Balm sent free by writing Blood Balm Co., Atlanta Ga. Describe trouble and free medical advice sent in sealed letter. This is an honest offer—medicine sent at once, prepaid. Sold in Anderson by Orr-Gray Drug Co., Wilhite & Wilhite, and Evans Pharmacy.

Is a Surgeon Excusable?

A cablegram from Paris states that the Gazette Medicale created a sensation by maintaining that it is entirely excusable if an absent-minded surgeon sews up some instrument, bandage or the like in the body of a person operated on. "Five practitioners," adds the cablegram, "are now being sued in Paris Courts for acts of forgetfulness of that sort."

This cablegram was shown yesterday to Dr. J. D. Blake, the well-known surgeon of the city, who has operated on nearly 300 cases of appendicitis. "That is an interesting subject," said Dr. Blake, "and I quite understand how the editor of the Gazette Medicale should excuse any oversight of that kind—for oversight it is, and nothing more. Similar cases have happened in this country, although I cannot recall any case of the kind in this city. Any person at all familiar with the many features of a difficult operation can realize how easy it is for an operator to make an oversight of this kind. And it may not be the operator's fault at all, for he has assistants in the more difficult operations, and one of these may place a sponge in that part of the body being operated upon, and this sponge may be lapped over or hidden, so that when the opening is being closed the sponge may be overlooked. This oversight will be manifested, although it may take some time to discover what the real trouble is. I do not think that such an oversight could have fatal results if the other conditions were favorable."

"The operations in which such accidents are more likely to occur are those of the stomach and breast, especially of the former. In speaking of sponges we generally mean little bundles of gauze which are placed in the opening, either to stop the flow of blood or to separate the infected organs from those free from disease. These sponges are used only once and are sterilized before being used. Real sponges are sometimes used, but they are more expensive. There are many ways in which an operator might overlook one of these sponges, so that it would be sewed up in a person's body. It is my custom generally to place an instrument at the end of each sponge. The attention of the operator is often divided between the actual work of the operation and the condition of the patient. While looking after the patient's condition a bowel may slip over one of these sponges, or a tissue may fold over it, so that it is hid from view, even after a careful examination. In the removal of gall stones from the bladder many sponges are used and it is difficult to keep the field of operation clear."

"I have never heard of a case, however, where an instrument was sewed up in a person's body, although this should not be the most surprising thing in some operations where large tumors are removed. Recently I removed a tumor weighing 49 pounds and you can easily understand what a large cavity that made. Numerous small instruments to stop the flow of blood had to be used, and one of these might have been concealed and afterward sewed up."

"With reference to the suits brought in the Paris Courts I should not imagine that any verdict will be given the plaintiffs, unless it can be proven that the operators were incompetent or negligent. I think the decision rendered in this city some time ago, in which \$30,000 damages was asked of the Hopkins Hospital, would stand in similar suits here. In that case a man from Virginia was operated on for one condition when another existed. The Court instructed the jury to the effect that unless the operator could be proven to have been incompetent or guilty of negligence no verdict could be rendered for the plaintiff."—Baltimore Sun.

Cottonseed oil, corn oil and linseed oil, there is good reason to believe, will probably have a rival at a not distant day in edible petroleum oil. As a matter of fact, petroleum has been successfully desulphurized and demineralized. Certain other solid and ingredients have been extracted from it, and the production of a fairly good edible oil has already resulted.

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Virginia Girl Changes Her Mind.

Clarksburg, W. Va., July 21.—Out of the West a young Lochinvar came yesterday—not on a horse, but in a buggy, and he carried away with him the bride-to-be of another man just ten minutes before she was to have plighted her troth. The audacity of the elopement created consternation and the wedding guests were agitated and amazed.

In all of Randolph County, famed for beautiful women, there is none whose comeliness excels that of Miss Ivie Thompson, daughter of Mr. John Thompson, one of the best known citizens in the State. She had suitors by the score, and when Philip H. Wolfong won her he was the envy of all the young gallants within a hundred miles.

The wedding was set for yesterday afternoon at 5 o'clock. The guests were assembled and the bridegroom came with the venerable clergyman who was to make him the happiest man in West Virginia. A few minutes before the appointed hour, and as the guests were looking for the bride and bridesmaids to appear, there was a sudden commotion in front of John Thompson's house.

A horse drawing a buggy and driven by William R. Rennie had stopped there, and the bride, evidently by prearrangement, ran down the steps, and placing one dainty slippered foot on step, sprang into the buggy. The whip fell on the horse's back and he started off on a gallop in the direction of the railroad station. Wolfong reached the door in time to see the buggy turn a bend in the road. Calling to his prospective father-in-law, and mounting a horse as quickly as it could be saddled, he started in pursuit.

The rows were dug deep in the flanks of the horses, but by the time the pursuers reached the station the train was pulling out.

The elopers went to Cumberland, and today a new license was taken. The beautiful girl who was to have become Mrs. Wolfong changed her name to Mrs. Rennie, and without any explanation as to the sudden change in her affections.

Sorry To Lose Marse John.

John Miller, of Richmond, Va., told some amusing stories of negro character at the last dinner of the New York Southern Society, says an exchange. One had to do with the ex-slaves retained on his father's plantation after the emancipation proclamation. The elder Miller, a liberal-minded man, insisted on giving each of the freed negroes a salary, but asked, in return, that each perform his or her assigned duty without fail, just as would be done were they to seek service elsewhere, as they were free to do. To one old fellow, Jonas, was assigned the duty of watering Mr. Miller's saddle horse three times daily at regular intervals. Several times he neglected the duty, and each time was told by Mr. Miller that they would have to separate if he were not more careful. When next he forgot Mr. Miller said: "Jonas, you've had fair notice. Now you and I must part." "Yas, Marse John," replied Jonas, "I'm sorry too. I was born an' raised here on de plantation and shall die here. I 'members yo', Marse John, since a baby, an' I does hate for to see you go 'way. Where's yo' gwine to, Marse John?"

In every town and village may be had, the Mica Axle Grease that makes your horses glad.

It is the right of every child to be well born, and to the parents it must look for health and happiness. How inconceivably great is the parents' responsibility, and how important that no taint of disease is left in the blood to be transmitted to the helpless child, entailing the most pitiable suffering, and marking its little body with offensive sores and eruptions, catarrh of the nose and throat, weak eyes, glandular swellings, brittle bones, white swelling and deformity.

How can parents look upon such little sufferers and not reproach themselves for bringing so much misery into the world? If you have any disease lurking in your system, how can you expect well developed, healthy children? Cleanse your own blood and build up your health, and you have not only enlarged your capacity for the enjoyment of the pleasures of life, but have discharged a duty all parents owe to posterity, and made mankind healthier and happier.

There is no remedy that so surely reaches deep-seated, stubborn blood troubles as S. S. S. It searches out even hereditary poisons, and removes every taint from the blood, and builds up the general health. If weaklings are growing up around you, right the wrong by putting them on course of S. S. S. at once. It is a purely vegetable medicine, harmless in its effects, and can be taken by both old and young, without fear of any bad results.

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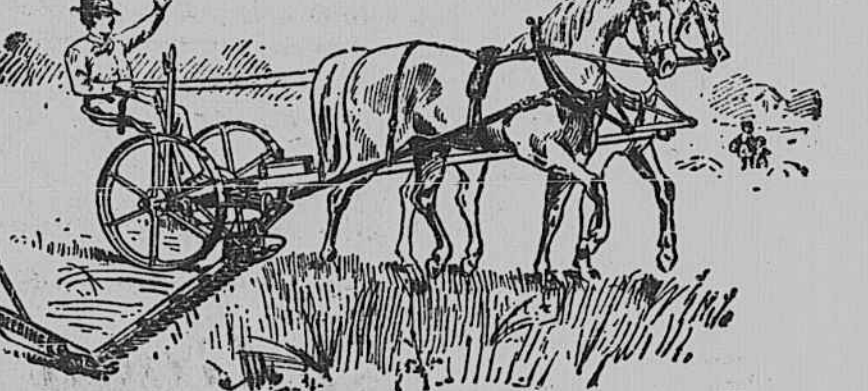
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